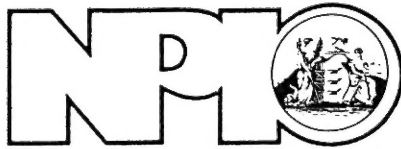


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Press Release:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1990

FOR RELEASE AFTER 11 a.m.

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REHABILITATION WORK SLATED FOR KRUEGER MANSION

A new chapter began today for the Krueger Mansion as city officials joined with New Jersey's largest residential developer and Central Ward residents to announce plans to restore the building to its former grandeur as Newark's premier residence.

Speaking in front of the building at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Court Street, Mayor Sharpe James announced that work would begin immediately to renovate the 43-room edifice.

Upon completion of the rehab efforts in 1992, the mansion will become a cultural center for the Central Ward community, showcasing local African-American history, the Mayor explained. The center will be administered by the Newark Public Library, a city agency.

James also said that K. Hovnanian Companies of Red Bank, the developer of the Central Ward's Society Hill complex, has volunteered to oversee the project. The Grad Associates of Newark will provide design and architectural services.

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KRUEGER MANSION AD 1

Reportedly the most expensive home ever built in Newark at the time, the mansion was constructed in 1888 by beer baron and city commissioner, Gottfried Krueger. It was later owned by Louise Scott, reputed to be the City's first black female millionaire.

James said the mansion, listed on the State and National registers of Historic Places, will be renovated in several stages. "However, the first and most important undertaking is to stabilize the exterior and eliminate further damage to the structure."

Newark has received a grant of \$436,875 from the New Jersey Historic Trust to begin this phase. The money will be matched by the City from a \$2.8 million capital budget allocation earmarked for the mansion's renovation.

James explained that a non-profit agency, the Krueger/Scott Mansion Cultural Center Corp., will be formed to help raise additional monies to complete the remaining phases of renovation.

Representatives of municipal agencies, Central Ward community groups and corporate entities will be appointed by the Mayor to serve on the board.

James maintained, "For years residents of the Central Ward community and their councilman, George Branch, have worked hard and been vocal in their efforts to preserve this magnificent structure and adapt it for reuse. Their cries have not gone unheard. Today we rededicate this building as a symbol of the pride and rebirth of the Central Ward."

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KRUEGER MANSION AD 2

He also thanked the Hovnanian Companies "for their continued commitment to the revitalization of the Central Ward" in volunteering to manage this project, and the Grad Partnership for doing the architectural design.

"At the same time," the Mayor offered, "residents in this neighborhood and throughout the City must commit themselves to protecting and cherishing this community treasure so that it will never again fall prey to the neglect and vandalism that almost have destroyed it."

City Council President Ralph T. Grant, Jr. called the restoration of the Krueger Mansion "the cultural capstone in the renaissance of Newark.

"This edifice will provide an opportunity for the African-American community to display its history, relevance and beauty and will be a source of knowledge and pride for everyone to appreciate. The mansion will serve as a monument to the persistence and durability of the people of the Central Ward. With cooperation and continued efforts we can all revel in its glory," he stated.

Branch hailed the restoration effort "as a great victory for the Central Ward. This building will provide a place for community groups to convene, to learn more about their history and to celebrate special events.

"For this cultural center to be the success we want, we must pull together in a true community effort. While we are seeking major funding from our business community, we too must be willing to give of our time and resources," the lawmaker asserted.

KRUEGER MANSION AD 3

Conrad Gack, president of Inner City Development, Inc., K. Hovnanian Companies, said, "The hundreds of residents at Society Hill and University Heights, along with all Newark's other citizens, can benefit from this restoration. Public use of this landmark mansion will advance Newark one step further."